



City of Santa Barbara
Infrastructure Financing Taskforce
Special Meeting

April 3, 2008

11:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Meet at City Hall Mayor and Council Conference Room
Site Tour of Parks and Recreation Facilities

City Staff Members

James L. Armstrong

City Administrator

Robert D. Peirson

Director of Finance

Paul A. Casey

Interim Director of Public Works

Jill Taura

Budget Manager

Kathy Kefauver

Administrative Analyst III

Lori Pedersen

Administrative Analyst

City Council Liaison

Roger L. Horton

Councilmember

Finance Committee, Chair

Committee Members

Richard Jensen, *Chair*

Stephen Kurtzer, *Vice-Chair*

W. Scott Burns

Robert Geis

Renee Grubb

Dudley Morris

Frank Schipper

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 11:37 a.m.

Members Present

Chair Richard Jensen

Scott Burns, Robert Geis, Renee Grubb, Dudley Morris and Frank Schipper

Members Absent

Stephen Kurtzer

Staff Present

Robert D. Peirson, Finance Director

Paul Casey, Acting Public Works Director

Nancy Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

Jill Taura, Budget Manager

Santos Escobar, Parks Manager

Kathy Kefauver, Administrative Analyst III

Lori Pedersen, Administrative Analyst II

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Tour of various Parks and Recreation facilities and City streets.

The Taskforce participated in a tour of Parks and Recreation facilities and City streets. Ms. Rapp provided the Taskforce with background information and a handout of the Six Year Capital Improvement Program for Parks and Recreation Department. Discussion was held regarding grant funding and how General Fund money is currently used to scope projects better guaranteeing that projects are accepted for grant funding. The opportunity for public/private partnerships exists at many Parks and Recreation facilities and discussions have been held in the past regarding the Municipal Tennis Courts and Los Banos. An

essential priority of partnerships is an emphasis on continued community access to the facilities.

The first site that the Taskforce viewed was Ortega Park. Ms. Rapp talked about the installation of security cameras at the park and how recent improvements to the park have reduced the undesirable activities that were occurring at the park. The wading pool was removed because funds were not available to make the necessary improvements to the water filtration system. The City was also able to successfully negotiate with the Junior High the removal of the old street that ran between the park and school for expansion of the turf area.

Paul Casey talked about street maintenance and the importance of preventive maintenance and the challenges that face the city with concrete streets.

Ms. Rapp mentioned the opportunities that exist for the City at the Armory and Army Reserve sites. Both sites have lots of opportunity for the community but the funding of the purchases and improvements is a challenge.

As the tour went past the Franklin Center Ms. Rapp described the importance of the community centers in Santa Barbara and how they are unable to service the community as completely as other community centers in other cities. The Franklin Center has had some recent improvements done but the Westside Center needs \$1.1 million in improvements also.

At the Municipal Tennis Courts Kathy Carpenter gave the Taskforce a tour of the facilities and talked about the challenges of the site, the improvements that are needed and the focus of the maintenance program at the site. This is a site where a community partnership might work but again, access for the community needs to be maintained. Ms. Carpenter also talked about the challenges at the Las Positas courts with the shifting soil and the closing of the restroom facilities at that site.

As the Taskforce passed the Andrea Clark Bird Refuge Ms. Rapp talked about the challenges and the work that is needed to eliminate poor water quality and the resulting odors produced during the summer months.

At the Cabrillo Bathhouse Ms. Rapp talked about the potential for a public/private partnership and better utilization of the space. She also talked about providing basic amenities for tourists at facilities even though vandalism is an issue. She wants to bring back these items especially in the highly visible tourist areas.

At Shoreline Park Ms. Rapp talked about the status of the recent landslide and the work effort that is being done to establish the future of the site. The landslide is an unexpected expense and funds will need to be redirected from other projects to address the work.

The final stop at 1,000 steps Mr. Escobar talked of the challenges of the site and possible solutions to reduce the build up of algae on the stairs. He also talked about the vandalism that Parks experiences especially during breaks from school.

Ms. Rapp summarized the efforts and opportunities for the Parks and Recreation Department and thanked the Taskforce for their work and taking time to tour the sites.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.